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P 091508Z APR 93 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY HARARE PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 107406

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL MARR ZI

SUBJECT: SOME THOUGHTS ON UN AND OAU INVOLVEMENT IN THE RWANDAN

CONFLICT

REF: (A) 93 HARARE 003884

REF: A) 93 ADDDIS ABABA 1298

B) 93 KIGALI 790

C) 93 USUN 803

D) 93 KIGALI 782

E) 93 KIGALI 702

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F) 93 USUN 790

G) 93 USUN 767

H) 93 KIGALI 683

I) FULLER-SHESTACK TELCON, 2/24/93

## 1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: FACED WITH ANOTHER LARGE-SCALE HUMANITARIAN DISASTER OF UP TO ONE MILLION RWANDANS DISPLACED BY RECENT FIGHTING, DEPARTMENT HAS HELD A SERIES OF MEETINGS TO REVIEW THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS, AND BRAINSTORM POSSIBLE OPTIONS. OFDA IS ADDRESSING DISASTER RELIEF SEPARATELY. THIS CABLE PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING POSSIBLE UN INTERVENTION IN RWANDA WITH AN OBSERVER FORCE

UNCLASSIFIED

TO MONITOR THE COMMON BORDER BETWEEN RWANDA AND UGANDA AND/OR TO MONITOR THE CEASEFIRE BETWEEN THE GOR AND THE RPF. ADDRESSEES ARE CAUTIONED TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT ROLES OF THE TWO POTENTIAL OBSERVER FORCES. ALTHOUGH IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUIRED, WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY QUICK OR EASY ACTION BY EITHER THE UN OR THE OAU TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS FROM THE GOR AND THE GOU. THIS MUST BE AN AFRICAN INITIATIVE, BUT THE U.S. IS WILLING TO CONSIDER SUPPORT FOR REASONABLE STEPS WHICH MIGHT BE WITHIN THE CAPACITY OF THE TWO BODIES. END

## BACKGROUND

3. DEPARTMENT HAS HELD A SERIES OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN THE LAST WEEK TO CONSIDER KIGALI'S INITIAL SUGGESTION OF A TEMPORARY UN FORCE TO MONITOR THE RENEWED CEASEFIRE CONFIDENTIAL

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BETWEEN THE GOR AND THE RPF UNTIL THE OAU CAN INCREASE ITS
PERSONNEL ON THE GROUND (REF H). THE DISCUSSIONS
BROADENED SUBSEQUENTLY WHEN THE GOR AND THE GOVERNMENT OF
UGANDA REQUESTED A UN FORCE TO MONITOR THEIR MUTUAL BORDER
(REFS C-G). THE GOR MAY NOW BE ASKING THE UN TO PROVIDE A
FORCE TO MONITOR BOTH THE BORDER AND THE CEASEFIRE (REF B).

- 4. ALL DISCUSSANTS AGREED THAT SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING OF THE UP TO ONE MILLION PERSONS DISPLACED BY THE RECENT FIGHTING. WE ARE FACING ANOTHER LARGE-SCALE HUMANITARIAN DISASTER. IF THE DISPLACED ARE UNABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES WITHIN A FEW WEEKS, THE SPRING CROPS WILL BE LOST AND THEY WILL DEPEND ENTIRELY ON RELIEF PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. EARLY COST ESTIMATES OF USD 2-4 MILLION PER MONTH (OR USD 50-60 MILLION FOR 10 MONTHS) TO FEED THE DISPLACED COULD PROVE TO BE LOW.
- 5. WITH THE UN ALREADY STRETCHED SO THIN, HOWEVER, WE CAN NOT EXPECT AN OVERWHELMING RESPONSE FROM UN MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE U.S., TO YET ANOTHER REQUEST FOR UN INTERVENTION. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO TAKE THE LEAD ON NEW INITIATIVES, BUT WE WILL CONSIDER REASONABLE STEPS WITHIN THE CAPACITY OF THE OAU AND/OR THE UN.
- 6. SOME CONFUSION HAS CREPT INTO CONVERSATIONS AND CABLE TRAFFIC BECAUSE OF THE OVERLAP IN THE REQUESTS FOR BORDER AND CEASEFIRE MONITORING. THIS CABLE LAYS OJ!TV6@\_H QKK\$9\*E\$7"LX3R6\_W)I3J;MB!RE/"!--LR0.H((T+ 7"C/Y:T(A00)(0)